श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज (हरियाणा) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, 6.00 बजे माननीय कृषि मंत्री जो ने वक्तव्य देना है, कमला जी . . .

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह): ठीक है, लेकिन ऐसा है कि पहले कमला जी अपना भाषण पूरा कर ले, उसके बाद मैं . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा : जैसा आपका आदेश होगा । मैं कल भी बोल सकती हूं ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AF FAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): The hon. Member can continue her speech next day also.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह): ठीक है, सुषमा जी आप बैठिए । कमला जी, आप आज समाप्त करना चाहती है या कल बोलेगी ?

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा : मैं कल बोलूगी । मैंने तो अभी शुरू ही किया है, पांच मिनट भी नहीं हुए । मैं कल बोलूगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) : ठीक है, अब आप बैठ जाइए ।

जैसा कि आपको मालूम है कि माननीय कृषि मंत्री , श्री बलराम जाखड़ जी कोई स्टेटमेंट सदन के सामने देने वाले है , आपके हाथ में भी स्टेटमेंट की कापी आने वाली है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि वे अपना स्टेटमेंट दे ।

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 1991-92

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE *(.SUM* BALRAM JAKHAR):

The Government have fixed the Minimum Support Prices for Kharif Cereals, Coarse Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds and Cotton for the 1991-92 season. These levels of support price have been fixed atter considering the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, including the revised recommendations submitted after the Govemment announced an increase in fertilizer prices by 40 per cent. The Government ■ have also kept in view scaled down increase in prices of fertilizers by 30 per cent.

The minimum support price for paddy of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) has been iked at Rs. 230 per quintal for the 1991-92 season marking an increase of Rs. 25 per quintal over the price of Rs. 205 per quintal for 1990-91. The support prices for Fine and Superfine varieties are Rs. 240 and 250 against the prices *al* Rs. 215 and Rs. 225 for the preceding year.

The minimum support prices for Kharif Coarse cereals *viz. Jowar, Bajara* and Ragi ot FAQ have been increased by Rs. 25 per quintal from Rs. 180 per quintal for 1990-91 season to Rs. 205 per quintal for the 1991-92 season. An increase of Rs. 30 per quintal from Rs. 180 for 1990-91 to Rs. 210 per quintal for 1991-92 has been allowed for Maize.

The support prices for Kharif Pulses *viz.* Arhar (Tur), Moong and Urad of FAQ will be Rs. 545 per quintal for the 1991-92 season showing an increase of Rs. 65 over the price fixed for the pre-ceeding season.

The price for Groundnut-ln-sheU of FAQ marks an increase of Rs. 65 per quintal to Rs. 645 from the price of Rs. 580 per quintal for the 1990-91 season.

For Soyabean Yellow and Soyabean Black varieties the support prices aTe Rs. 445 per quintal and Rs. 395 per quintal respectively as compared to Rs. 400 and Rs. 350 for the preceeding year.

The minimum support price for Sunflowerseed for 1991-92 is Rs. 670 per quintal showing an increase of Rs. 70 over that for the previous season.

The minimum support prices fixed for the basic varieties of Cotton *viz.* F-414/ H777 and H-4 varieties at Rs. 695 and

[Shri Balram Jakhar]

Rs. 840 per quintal respectively show increases in prices over those for 1990-91 by Rs. 75 and Rs. 90 per quintal respectively.

I hope the enhanced remunerative support prices for 1991-92 season which well compensate the farmers for the rise in fertilizer prices and other input costs, will ensure fair return to the farmers for their produce, This should provide the farmer adequate incentive and a firm base to plan for greater investment in agriculture.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): Now, clarifications. *{Interruptions)*

SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM (Bihar): What about jute prices?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: They have been announced earlier. I have asked about this. Something has to be done otherwise. I have asked for a revision for the 30 per cent increase.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): Now, clarifications. Shri Moturu Hanumantha Rao.

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I want one clarification about the rise in prices of fertilisers. The point is that the hon. Minister for Agriculture promised repeatedly, twice, in the House that the existing stock would be sold at old prices. But that has not com© about. For both Government stock and private stock only new prices are collected. Sometimes, stock itself is not there since it has gone to the blackmarket. And now, why is it changed ? Why this higher price is collected from farmers while" their products would be gipen extre price only afterwards, after the season comes ? Now they will have to invest so much money. Moreover, when they pay the whole price, the presently fixed price for their fertiliser, they will be given later the reimbursement or some such relief, even in regard to marginal and poor fanners. The trouble is of investing more money at the present Stage when crops are not there and toe yield is already sold out. How does he want to satisfy the farmer by such an attitude as this ? I want to know this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, it is very interesting because the price of every commodity has been listed, but jute has been omitted. West Bengal grows the largest quantity of jute. The reason may be that jute price was fixed much earlier. *{Interruption).* I listened to you, Mr. Minister. It may be that the price of jute has been fixed earlier. Jute has already started arriving in the market and there is already a depression in the price of jute. Therefore, if you allow price fixation to take place after some time, after the careful study your department will make, it means that jute farmers will lose for this session. For this session, jute farmers are going to lose. Why no other peasant is losing on his produce, why only the jute farmer should be singled out because the Government will take some time to study the problem? I do not understand what prevented the Government from studying the problem of jute price along with the prices of other commodities. The price of cotton has been take care of. It only means that the Government is not favourably disposed towards the jute grower. The objective reality is this. Anyway, Sir, I wish that tha Government should make an immediate announcement on revision of the minimum price of jute.

Now I come to the second question. The Minister says that agricultural costs and prices, including the revised recommendations submitted after the Government announcement have been taken into consideration. I would like the hon. Minister to tell us whether the question of payment of minimum wage to agricultural workers as a part of the cost of production is taken into consideration while fixing the price of different commodities. He has only spoken of the increase ia. prices of fertilisers. But he has not taken into consideration that recently the National Commission for Rural Labour has recommended that the miiiimmn wage should be increased. He has taken that into consideration? The hon. Minister might be having some bias for the rich farmers. I do not grudge that. But he should have similar sympathy for the interest of the

agriculutral workers in the country. I would like to know whether the question of payment of minimum wages to the agricultural workers has been taken into consideration while computing the price of other commodities. *{Interruptions}.*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I cannot understand why he should say that I have a bias for the rich farmers.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: No, I didn't say it.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You said it.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I said, you must be having a sympathy for the rich farmers.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Why should I? I must be fair to all. *{Interruptions).* You shoud not have said this. I don't like. *{Interruptions).*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: There is nothing bad in it. The rich growers are as much a part of the population as the poor agricultural workers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is better that Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta withdraw that word and put some other word.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I didn't say 'bias'. I said, does he care to have sympathy for the rich peasants ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): The hon. Member is saying that he has not said 'bias'. He has perhaps said 'sympathy'

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Is sympathy an unparliamentary word? I have said sympathy. I didn't say 'bias'. The Minister has substituted my word 'sympathy' for 'bias'. I said, sympathy for the rich peasants. Therefore, my point is, whether the minimum wage to the agricultural workers has been taken into consideration,

Thirdly, the sunflower price has been increased by Rs. 70—the greatest bonanza for the growers of sunflower—Rs. 70. Therefore, it appears that in some cases the prices have been so enhanced that in the ultimate analysis it is going to increase the price spiral in the country. Therefore, my third question is, while fixing the prices, whether the Govemment has taken into consideration the price situation and whether the steps that the Government is taking in respect of some commodities, not all, are going to affect the prices. That is a point to be) considered.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, normally the support price for the agricultural commodities is fixed by the Agricultural Costs and Prices Commission at the time of harvest. One thing that I appreciate in the hon. Minister's statement is that the have increased the price taking into consideration the increase in the cost of fer tilizer and other inputs. Therefore, at the sowing season, this price fixation shas been made to give a supporting hand to the farmer by way of incentive to have more harvest in the coming years. My hon. friend, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, while speaking said that there is discrimination in respect of the price of sunflower and that there has been a quantum increase of Rs. 70 in the price of sunflower. I do not know whether or not he wants to pay that amount to the sunflower *vO*-were. The yield from sunflower is very meagre. Therefore, by way of incentive it has been given to the farmers. He should understand that before speaking on the subject. *{Interruptions),*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): Mr Narayanasamy, you are a very seasoned Member of this House. Please hear. You are seeking clarifications. You are not giving answer to the clarifications. Therefore, you have to put your questions to the Minister.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am coming to that. In the meantime, I have to say certain points about the statement made by the hon. Minister *{Interrnptions).* Now

[Shri V. Narayanasamy]

the point is the farmers in the southern part of the country have converted the paddy fields for growing sugarcane because of lack of facilities the income which they get from paddy is much less compared to sugarcane. My fear is, in the coming period even for consumption the farmers may not be able to produce the required quantity of rice. They will go in for sugarcane cultivation. While appreciating the increase of Rs. 25/- which has been made for paddy, I would like to, submit that taking into consideration the cost of agricultural labour, the cost of inputs, including fertilisers and pesticides, this increase made by the hon. Minister is very meagre. What has been happening in the market is that only the middlemen and businessmen in private are thriving at the cost of farmers and that the amount that has been given-—though it is helping the farmers—is not going to satisfy them as such. Therefore, a large scale shift from paddy cultivation to sugarcane cultivation is taking place in certain parts of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Commission for Agricultlral Costs and Prices has taken into consideration the labour input, the increase of 40 per cent in the fertiliser prices and the subsidy given to the marginal and small farmers and also the water given to them for the purpose of growing crops. I would like to know the time when these figures have been arrived at to give the support price to the farmers. I would also like *to* know whether it was done so after or before this benefit was given to the small and marginal farmers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister also one important point. The farmers have been given the benefit by way • of the Loan-Waiver Scheme. It is also pinching the farmers' palm. The scheme was announced. The previous V. P. Singh Government said that they had allocated the funds and

till date there are complaints from various States that th?t benefit has not been given to the farmers. I would like to know whether this Government is going to implement the scheme and what stand. the Governnvent is going ot take in ,.!3s regard.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज (हरियाणा): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सबसे पहले तो मै कृषि मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहूंगी कि उन्होने खरीफ में पैदा होने वाले दलहन, तिलहन, मोटा अनाज और धान के दामों में काफी अच्छी बढ़ोत्तरी की है । इस बढ़ोत्तरी से खाद के दामों में बढ़ोत्तरी के कारण किसानों पर जो बोझा पड़ा था उसकी कुछ हद तक भरपाई हो सकेगी । मुझे इस बारे में मंत्री जी से तीन जानकारियां लेनी हैं ।

पहली तो यह कि जिन समर्थन मूल्यों की आपने घोषणा की है उनका पूरा-पूरा लाभ किसानों को मिल सके, इसके लिए आपने क्या प्रबंध किए हैं ? समर्थन मूल्य के माने यह नहीं है कि इसी दाम पर किसानों के अनाज बेचना है । जब तक उनको ऊंचे दाम बाजार में मिलेगें तब तक वे ऊंचे मूल्यों पर बेचेंगे । जिस दिन दाम गिरेंगे उस दिन किसानों को डिस्ट्रस सेल न करनी पड़े, उस दिन समर्थन मूल्य देने की बात है । महोदय, मेरे पास यह विभाग हरियाणा में रहा है और मुझे इसका अनुभव है कि ये जो आपकी एजेंसियां है, जैसे केन्द्रीय सरकार की एफ़. सी. आइ, है वह बड़ी मात्रा में अनाज खरीदती है, राज्य का खाद्य और आपूर्ति विभाग भी खरीदता है, लेकिन मेरी यह प्रामाणिक जानकारी है कि ये एजेंसियां समर्थन मूल्य पर अनाज को खरीदने के लिए बहुत देरी से बाजार में पहुंचती है । बहुत बड़ा पैरा फर्नेलिया है, बहुत, बड़ा ताम झाम है उनका । तो यदि समय रहते प्रबंध न किए जाएं तो ये बाजार में नहीं पहुंचती है और किसानों को अपने अनाज की डिस्ट्रेस सेल करनी पड़ती है । तो समर्थन मूल्य होने के बाद भी उनको वह लाभ नहीं मिल पाता है । तो क्या सरकार अपनी एजेंसियों को बाजार में समय रहते भेजने का प्रबंध करेगी ताकि जो लाभ आप किसानों को पहुंचाना चाहते है, वह उनको मिल सके ? दूसरी बात मुझे इसी सन्दर्भ में कहनी है कि जैसे धान के मूल्यों में वर्गीकरण करके समर्थन मूल्य रखे जाते है, आपने फेयर एवरेज क्वालिटी के फाइन, सुपर फाइन वैराइटीज के अगल-अलग दाम रखे

है क्रमशः 230, 240 और 250 रखे है और जिस वेराइटी के निर्धारण का काम वहां के इंस्पेक्टर को दिया जाता है उसमें बहुत बड़ा भ्रष्टाचार व्याप्त है । किसान कहता रहता है कि हमारा सुपर फाइन वेराइटी का राइस है लेकिन कुछ टुकड़ों की मात्रा रखी हुई है उसकी डिसक्रिशन उस इंस्पेक्टर पर होती है। वह उस सुपर फाइन वेराइटी को एक कलम की नोक से से फेयर एवरेज क्वालिटी का लिख देता है जिसके कारण बहुत नुकसान होता है । इस तरह की चीजों को समाप्त करने के लिए आपने क्या व्यवस्थाएं की है ।

तीसरा मेरा एक छोटा सा सवाल है पैराग्राफ 5,6 और 7 में जिन समर्थन मूल्यों की घोषणा की है, वह तिलहनों से सम्बन्धित है । आपने छिलके वाली मूंगफली के दाम में बढ़ोतरी की है, पीले और काले सोयाबीन के दाम में बढ़ोतरी की है, सूरजमुखी के फूलों के दाम में बढ़ोतरी की है तो इन तीनों से खाद्य तेल बनते है । क्या आप कृषि मंत्री के नाते और पूरी सरकार की सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी के नाते महंगाई न बढ़े इसके लिए कुछ करेंगे ? यह जो दामों में बढ़ोतरी की है इसके तुलनात्मक ढंग से खाद्य तेलों में कहीं बहुत ज्यादा वृद्धि होने की संभावना तो नहीं है जिसका सीधा भार उपभोक्ता पर पड़ेगा ? वह किसान जो एक तरफ तो अपनी चीज कच्ची बेचेगा ज्यादा महंगे दाम पर और कहीं उससे ज्यादा महंगे दाम पर उसे अपनी उपभोग की चीजें खाद्य तेल इत्यादि तो. नहीं खरीदने पड़ेंगे ? एक हाथ से देना और दूसरे हाथ से बटोर लेना कहीं ऐसी बात तो नहीं होगी ? खाद्य तेल के दाम आप किस प्रकार से नियन्त्रित रख पायेगें इसके लिए आपने कुछ सोचा है ? ये तीन जानकारियां मैं कृषि मंत्री जी से जानना चाहतो हूं ।

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVA JI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the prices announced by Mr. Jakhar are more arbitrary than the standard level because the total hike in the fertiliser price is to the tune of Rs. 2,000/- crores. The Minister has announced the prices of several outputs, but at the same time necessary agencies are not available to implement the same. Except for food and cotton, for the rest of the items no agencies are available for procurement. I would like to know from the bfn'ble Minister whether there are any procurement agencies for cereals as well as pulses like urad, soyabean, and sunflower oil and sunflower seed and other items at the disposal of the Government. I would also like to know whether there is any igency either like Food Corporation of India or Cotton Corporation of India or some nodal agency to procure and implement this proposal. The whole foodgrains procured by the Food Corporation of India are consumed by the comman man, by the poorest of the poor. But the Food Corporation of India does not procure coarse cereals. The Food Corporation of India wanted its share by procuring ten per cent if the total production of rice and another ten per cent of wheat. That is all. If at all there is any other thing, they procure some sugar 10 be distributed through the PDS. The hon'ble Ministers did not mention dnyfhing about the price of sugar-cane. As mentioned by our friend Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, the Minister is not sympathetic or favourable to one section of the society or one section of the peasantry. I expected much from the pro-kisan attitude of Mr. Jakhar. But I am shocked to go through a statement of Mr. Jakhar on the other day in the *HINDU* and other newspapers date-lined Bangalore. He criticised the loan waiver schems. He said that at encourages bankruptcy of the banks; it encourages the spend-thriftness of the farming community. But do you know, Sir, the sick industries in this country locked up the capital of the financial institutions under the guise of sick industries to the tune of Rs. 10 crores and precious little has been done by the Government to recover those loans. Industries are sick but not the industrialists. They switch over to another industry.

The second point is these figures are neither in accordance with the cost of proudction nor in accordance with the cost of the finished product. The fair average quality rice produced in this country is selling at US $ 320 per metric ton in the international market. But as

[Dr. Yelamanchili Sivaji]

per the figures given by the honourable Minister, the price he had announced for the fair average quality rice is Rs. 240. It is common knowledge :hat if three quintals of paddy is milled you get about two quintals of rice. So in the market each kg. should cost around Rs. 3 or less than Rs. 3. But the ruling price in-the market is to the tune oi Rs. 5, Rs. 6 and Rs. 10 at times. And where is the margin going? I do not know. The same is the situation with cotton. The H4 variety of cotton is announced at Rs. 8.40 per kg. Three kgs. of cotton, after ginning, yields about one kg. of lint and that one kg. of lint produces 8 metters of cloth. If 8 metres of cloth is weighed on the scale it weighs less than a kg. That means 3 kgs. of cotton after ginning produces two kgs. of seeds that costs Rs. 10 and one kg. of lint. So 8 metres of cloth that is produced from H4 variety costs in the market more than Rs. 200. Out of this Us. 200 the farmer is getting only Rs. 25, as per the Minister's figures. Where is the margin going? Where is the entire amount going ? The entire amount is bagged by the industrialists or by the Government in the form of taxes or by the trader in the form of commission or by the advertising agency or the newspapers or as donation to political parties. It is all grabbed by the urban people. Out of this Rs. 200 the share of the raw-material producer is less than one-eighth, that is, only about Rs. 25. The international price of rice, when compared to the figures produced by Dr. Jakhar, is 2.5 times less than the international market. So I would ask the Minister' Does he propose to enhance the issue price of rice through PDS? What steps is he faking? As per the figures computed by the Minister and supplied, the Food Corporation of India is procuring to the tune of 1.15 lakh metric tons of rice per annum. This *1.15* lakh metric tons of paddy before the enhanced price costs about Rs. 450 crores. How does he propose to absorb this Rs. 450 crores? Mr. Minister, are you percolating the budget to the State Governments? This enhancement of price unnecessarily puts a burden on the State Governments and State Governments like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are compelled to raise the issue price fo rice which is deleterious to their interests. These are the clarifications I would like to seek from the honourable Minister. In this conection I would like to add,

whether it is relevant or not, the honourable Minister mentioned about the loan waiver scheme. Whether it is a good scheme or a bad scheme, I would suggest to the Minister that he should set a deadline. He should announce it that whoever in the farming community pays his dues to the financial institutions by the 31st March, he will be given relief in the ^ form of interest or something like that. Or, you implement the Usurous Loans Act and make it a point to tell the financial institutions that they should not collect more amount by way of interest than the principal. Suppose I take a loan of Rs. 10,000 from a bank. If I pay Rs. 20,000 it should suffice. The bank should not be allowed *to* make a profit. This is a point in the interests of the farmers. I hope the Minister will react *ia* this.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन में मंत्री जी के वक्तव्य पर ऐसे मौके कम ही आते हैं जब उन्हें बधाई देने की इच्छा होती है। एक ऐसा मौका आज आया है। क्योंकि मैं किसान परिवार से संबंधित हूं इसलिये मैं यह बात दावे के साथ कह सकता हूं कि भारत, जो एक कृषि प्रधान देश माना जाता है उसमें अन्नदाता की स्थिति अत्यंत दयनीय है । किसानों की पीड़ा और भावना को मद्देनजर रखते हुए हमारे कृषि मंत्री जी ने जो सामयिक कदम उठाया है, खरीफ की फसलों का समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ाकर इसके लिये निश्चित रूप से वे बधाई के पात्र हैं । सदन के सभी पक्षों के सदस्यों को उनको बधाई देनी चाहिए, ऐसा मेरा आग्रह है । मुझे खुशी है कि दूसरे पक्ष के माननीय सदस्य ने भी उनके इस कदम की सराहना की है क्योंकि इससे निश्चितरूप से खाद की कटौती की वजह से किसानों पर जो बोझ बढ़ा था उससे उनको मुक्ति मिल पायेगी और किसानों को निस्संदेह कृषि पर अधिक धन लगाने के लिय प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा ।

माननवर, यह बात अलग है कि किस के दौर में कब किन चीजों का उत्पादन बढ़ा और

घटा । लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहता हूं कि तिलहन का उत्पादन 1988-89 में 118 लाख मीट्रिक टन था जो कि 1989-90 में घटकर 16.8 मीट्रिक टन हो गया। इसी प्रकार से कपास का उत्पादन भी घटा, कम हुआ और साथ जो कुल खाद्यान्न का जो लक्ष्य 1989-90 का था, एकानामिक सर्वे मेरे पास है, वह 175 लाख मीट्रिक टन था । लेकिन इसकी तुलना में जो प्राप्ति हुई वह 170.6 लाख मीट्रिक टन हुई। तो मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्योंकि सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन में जो औसत वार्षिक वृद्धि का 3.6 प्रतिशत अनुमान है, उसका जो निर्धारित स्तर है वह 3.7 प्रतिशत था, उसकी अपेक्षा यह कम है । सरकार की तरफ से, स्पोर्ट समर्थन मूल्य किसानों को खरीफ की फसल का बढ़ाने का सराहनीय कदम है लेकिन क्या इस ओर भी कृषि मंत्रालय ध्यान देगा कि खरीफ से संबंधित जो अन्य फसलें हैं उनके उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए भी कुछ प्रयास किय जांये ताकि किसान और ज्यादा लाभान्वित हो सके । तो क्या कृषि मंत्रालय की ओर से इस बात की पहल की जायगी इनका प्रोडक्शन बढाने के लिये रिसर्च करवाया जायेगा चाहे आई०सी०ए० आर० के माध्यम से हो, चाहे आई०ए०आर०,आई० के माध्यम से हो । लेकिन आज आई०ए० आर० आई० जो पूसा रोड़ पर स्थित है, उसमें रिसर्च वर्क जो है वह संतोषजनक नहीं हो रहा है। अगर रिसर्च वर्क ठीक ढंग से होगा, अगर टेक्नालाजी ठीक ढंग की मिलेगी तो निश्चितरूप से प्रोडक्शन और बढ़ेगा और जब प्रोडक्शन और ज्यादा बढ़ेगा तो उसका लाभ भी किसानों को मिलेगा। इससे किसानों को दोतरफा लाभ होगा। साथ ही कुछ आइटम्स ऐसी हैं, जैसे कि कपास है वह हायली एक्सपोर्टेबल कमोडिटी है। कपास का उत्पादन बढ़े, मक्का का उत्पादन बढ़े, अन्य खरीफ से संबंधित फसलों का उत्पादन बढ़े, इसके लिये सरकार की तरफ से क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं ? साथ ही आपने जो निर्धारित मूल्य बढ़ाये हैं इसकी जितनी प्रशंसा की जाय वह कम है लेकिन क्या इसके साथ साथ मंत्री जी फार्म प्रोड्यूस प्राइस भी फिक्स करने जा रहे हैं, यह जानकारी मैं आप के माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा ?

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS (Orissa): Sir, I come from the State of Orissa where there was a devastating flood recently. Orissa is a rice-producing Slate. Two or three days back, there was a discussion on the TV about the export of rice from our country. In this connection, I would like to point out one thing. In the flood-affected State of mine, the price of rice has gone up from Rs. 3.50/- in the open market to Rs. 6/- at present and most of the people who are tribals and who are poor are very much affected.

I would like to know whether the Gov ernment is going to take any policy deci sion not to send rice outside in order to help the individual consumers who are depending on rice only.

There is another thing which I want to mention here. I know that the minimum price which has been fixed for the kharif season will help the farmers. But at the same time, I should say that it will affect the individual consumers also. We must consider everything from the consumers' point of view. If a commodity is not available at a price at which the con-; sumer is capable of purchasing it, then it creates some sort of difficulty. So, when you fix the minimum price, you must also consider the price which the consumers can pay directly in the open market and that should be taken into account. I would like the Minister to reply to these points.

PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal); Sir, the problem seems to be the result of wide-ranking arithmetic. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices had made some recommendations which were revised after there was an announcement about increasing the fertilizer prices and there after some decrease in that was further announced and, absorbing all these things, this increase has been announced now ranging from, I think, Rs. 25- to Rs. 90/-in respect of various commodities which have been mentioned here. We have been assured by the Government, by no less a person than the Finance Minister, that various steps are being taken which would not allow a general price rise. The farmers have been allowed »ome price rise.

[Shri Sourin Bhattacharya] Which type of fanners have beea allowed this is another point. It is only those farmers who have the surplus to sell have been allowed which means that it is only the rich farmers or the big farmers, The, question of cost of production has to be dealt with, no doubt, and it cannot bei excluded. But the questions is what would be the price differential in the open market. The prices have been raised. Paddy price has been increased by Rs. 25/-. It would mean that the price of rice has to be increased by Rs. 37.50, not less than that. What effect will it have on the general market, on the common man's life ? Rice cannot be dispensed with by the people in large areas of the country. Then, there are other things. Cotton prices have been increased up t_o Rs. 90. Will that mean an increase in the price of cloth T are these increases confined just to themselves without having any backlash ? That thing also has to be explained by the Mniister because the question of agriculturist's position, the question of agricultural labourer's position cannot dispensed with by him. If there is an increase in one sector, increase in other sectors follows. If there is an increase in the prices of farm products, there must be an increase in the wages of the Agricultural labourers producing those farm products. It is axiomatic. If that axiomatic thing is not done, then there will be a backlash. The question is whether all these aspects have been taken into account while announcing this sort of a package. Everything is not immediately due, but foreseeing the events, an announcement has been made well '"n time. But the point is whether this announcement will lead to the fleecing of the common man. That thing has to be explained. Whether the issue prices will increase, and if increased, to what extent they will increase? All theje things have to be stated. Otherwise, it is an incomplete statement, giving rather a confused picture. And I hope that the Minister does not like to confuse us because his role so far has been clarifying the case. And I hope he clarifies all these points.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I have gone through the statement. This rise in the procurement prices of different foodgrains and agricultural products has come up because of the rise or increase in the fertilizer prices by 30 per cent. My very first question to the hon. Minister is this: By the rise of the fertilizer prices, what is the cost of production that has increased in all these different crops? It is not a question of fertilizer prices going up. Diesel xirice has also gone up, transport cost has also gone up. And the very important aspect of this is that the entire butter is taken away by thE middlemen agendo*. That is the entire problem of agriculture.

Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister for increasing the procurement prices from Rs. 10. to Rs. 95 for different commodities. As my friend, Dr. Sivaji, has rightly point out about cotton, for Rs. 25 worth of cotton, the final product is sold by the mill owner at Rs. 200. That means, Rs. 175 is being distributed among the middlemen agencies, and a very small portion is going to the labour. That it the positiqn. One hon. Member has also rightly pointed out about the wages of the labourers. We will not mind *to* pay higher wages. The Government of lndia and the State Governments are also paying proper labour charges. Now the problem here is this. Take the case of groundnut. From 3 KGs of groundnut, we get 1 KG of adible oil. What is th» cost of edible oil. As per the procurement price that you have declared for gronnd-not— Rs. 6.45 per kilo, roughly Rs. 7— \or Rs. 21, we get one kilo of groundnut oil. But the cost of groundnut oil is more than Rs. 40 in the market. That means, 50 per rent more money is being earned by the middlemen agencies of fhis country . Now, are we going to do with these middleman agency? Hon. Minister, I understand your position. I know that you are an agriculturist. You are also having some tension as I am haring today. While speaking the language of the farmer, what are you going to do with the middleman agency? They axe grabbing all the prolts. Neither the farmer is getting, nor the consumer is at convenience. If the farmer is getting only Rs. 7 and the consumer is purchasing at Rs. 20, the same product, and Rs. 14 or Rs. 15 is taken away by the middleman agency, what are you going to do? From that point of view, our Prime Minister has recently

stated in our Kisan Congress that our agricultural policy should be export-oriented. And in the Congress Manifesto also it has been stated that agriculture should be treated as an industry. You have brought a new industrial policy before the two Houses, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. May I know from the hon. Minister at this moment, before the end of the session are you going to bring out a new agricultural policy? Our entire economy is held up Tt is sot due to industrial backwardness but it is due to lacuna in agriculture and the middleman who is grabbing all the profit of agriculture. Neither the agriculture is getting the benefit nor the con. sumer is getting it. Only some finger counted middlemen are getting all the profits of Indian agriculture. And we say that the GDP of agriculture has come down from 34 per cent to 26 per cent. That is aJso totally wrong. Fifty per cent of raw materials of industry come from agriculture. That means the total GDP of the counrty is more than 60 per cent which comes from agriculture. And false promises are given by economists. T do not understand what is the matter.

Sir, another thing is that T have categorically stated about fertilizers also. T do not understand. You are giving Rs. 3750 crores subsidy of fertilizers to do mestic production, which is 70 per Cent. and Rs. 78 crore subsidy to imported fertilizers, which is 27 per cent. I don't know what is wrong in that. Either there is something wrong with the management, or there is something wrong in the supply of raw materials or something wrong with the large number of labourers who have been appointed and who are not doing any work and you are paying heavy wages to them. Now all these things are to be revised and we must come to some conclusion what the country should be and what the country's agriculture should be.

Sir, I would like to ask very pointed questions. T do not agree with the support price; it should be remunerative price. Support price has not meaning at all, in my view. You have to consider all the factors which are responsible for increasing the cost of cultivation of different crops. And when you consider all the factors, including management of the farmers and what wages farmer pays, it is not a question of what wages we pay to the labourers but what wages the farrrer pays. What is the economy of Dr. Jakhnr for him? What is the economy of V. M. Jadhav for him? That is important. All farming is in the loss. We are surviving only because some people are having side income, except from agriculture. And people say that agriculturists are grabbing all the money and they get all the concessions in income-tax. I challenge any industrialist any businessman, who dots 'sole farming business, and if he says that his farming is in profit, then I will lose my membership of Rajya Sabha. *(Time Bell rinas).* That is not so. This is the situation all over the country.

So, 1 would request the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, that he must state clearly by when he is going to accept remunerative prices, in spite of the support prices.

Then, the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices has given some procurement prices. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that it should not be only the agricultural costs and prices. While fixing the prices of agricultural commodities it must be taken what is the price rise in electric motors, what is the rise in power charges, what is the rise in water charges; all these relevant factors must be taken into consideration. Such type of Commission should be set up *to* fix up the procurement cost of agricultural commodities. Sir, the support or remunerative prices have been declared just now. I request the Minister that the support and remunerative prices should be declared before the start of monsoon so that the farmer should know what crop hs wants to grow and what would crop the benefit of the crop to him. My important point is, by when agriculture is to be treated as industry and by when the new and modern agricultural policy is to be put up before the Parliament? These ire my questions.

THE VTCE-CHATRMAN (SHR T SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH); Now the Minister.

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHFR (Haryana) Sir. *(Interruptions'),*

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकरदयाल सिंह) : आखड़ साहब, एक मिनट बैठ जाइये।... (व्यवधान) देखिये, एक मिनट भी नहीं, एक-एक सवाल पूछिए।..(व्यवधान)..

श्री छोटूभाई पटेल (गुजरात): आदरणीय मंत्री जी को जो वायदा उन्होंने निभाया है इसके बारे में मैं बधाई देना चाहूंगा और जो लाभान्वित होने वाले फार्मर्ज हैं, किसान हैं उनमें एक खुशी की बात...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकरदयाल सिंह) : आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री छोटूभाई पटेल : : उनमें खुशी की लहर फैल गई है, मगर मैं आदरणीय मंत्री जी से आपके माध्यम से यह पूछना चाहूंगा कि जो यह फसल 1991–92 की फसल के लिए मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस जो दिए गए हैं उसके पीछे क्या नार्म्ज हैं ? वट आर द नार्म्ज ? नम्बर दो, सर, एग्रीकल्चरल क्राप्स खरीदने के लिए एफ.सी.आई तो खरीदती नहीं है, तो कौन खरीदती है, जिससे सब को बैनिफिट मिल सके ? ..(व्यवधान) लेबर के लिए मिनिमम वेज पालिसी है। उसके बारे में कुछ सोचा गया है या नहीं सोचा गया है और रेम्युनरेटिव प्राइस जो हैं वह देना जरूरी है सपोर्ट प्राइस के बजाए, इसके बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी ने क्या सोचा है? लास्ट प्वायंट, सर, तो यह सभी लाभान्वित होने वाले किसानों को बैनिफिट मिल सके, इसलिए कोई कंप्रीहेंसीव एक्शन प्लान कृषि मंत्री जी, आपने सोच रखा है या नहीं सोच रखा है ? धन्यवाद।

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह लाठर : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय जी से इतनी अर्ज करना चाहूंगा ...(व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकरदयाल सिंह) :

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह लाठर : दो ही मिनट में खत्म करूंगा। हमारे हरियाणा या पंजाब के अंदर मंत्री जी को इस बात का पता है कि जो चावल पैदा किया जाता है उस पर कितनी मेहनत होती है और उस पर कितना खर्चा होता है, बाकी जितनी भी फसलों की कीमतें मंत्री महोदय ने बढाई हैं मैं उसके लिए उनको बधाई देना चाहता हूं, लेकिन जो चावल, पैडी की इन्होंने कीमत बढ़ाई है वह बिल्कुल इनसफीशिएंट है। मैं खुद जो पैडी प्रोड्यूस करता हूं और ईमानदारी से मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूं कि जितना दवाइयों पर, फर्टिलाइजर के ऊपर, डीजल के ऊपर और जितना लेबर के ऊपर पैडी चावल की फसल पैदा करने में खर्च किया जाता है वह जमींदार का घर पूरा भी नहीं होता, रेम्युनरेटिव प्राइस तो अलग बात है। बहन सुषमा जी ने एक बात कही थी, वह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि बजाए इसके कि यह लाभ फार्मर के घर जाए, यह क्वालिटी इंसपैक्टर के घर में जाता है, आढती के घर में जाता है और जो टूटने वाली बात की थी दाने, जो रिजेक्ट करते हैं मोयस्चर के नाम पर, मंत्री जी मैं आपके नोटिस में लाना चाहूंगा कि क्वालिटी इंसपैक्टर अच्छी से अच्छी फसल को हाथ लगाकर रिजेक्ट कर देते हैं और उसको फिर आधी कीमत के अन्दर आढती खरीदता है और वह खुद उसके पैसे दुगुने कीमत पर वसूल करता है। यह जो लाभ आप किसान को, फार्मर को देना चाहते हैं वह लाभ क्वालिटी इंसपैक्टर, एफ.सी.आई. के लोग और आढती लोग जो मिडिलमैन है, कमीशन खाने वाला आदमी है, वह उसको फायदा पहुंचाता है, किसान को इसमें कुछ नहीं मिलता है। ...(व्यवधान) उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, ...(व्यवधान) इस बात को आप ध्यान में रखिए और ऐसा इंतजाम क्या मंत्री महोदय करेंगे ताकि किसान को यह लाभ पहुंच सके ?

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY (Orissa): Due to heavy rains in some States *i.e.* Orissa, Bihar and U.P. the paddy plants been Washed away,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH): Only put your question,

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY; I want to know whether the Government is going to give some help to the farmers from natural calamity point of view?

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं एक लाईन में ही पूछूंगा कि रबी की फसल जो होने वाली है, क्या मंत्री महोदय अभी उसका मूल्य निर्धारित करेंगे जिससे किसानों को फायदा हो सके ?

श्री भंवर लाल पंवार (राजस्थान) : मंत्री महोदय से केवल यह जानकारी चाहूंगा कि जो समर्थन मूल्य अभी घोषित किया गया है, उस समर्थन मूल्य का गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई प्रतिशत तो नियत नहीं किया है कि इतना गवर्नमेंट को देना पड़ेगा ? ऐसा तो भविष्य में नहीं करने जा रहे हैं ?

उप सभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) : दोनों महिलाओं में से एक पूछ लीजिए । सत्या बहिन ।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, सरकार ने जो यह समर्थन मूल्य निर्धारित किए हैं, तो इसमें जो सरकारी क्रय केन्द्र हैं, जिला स्तर पर खरीदी केन्द्र हैं, उनमें बहुत भ्रष्टाचार है। उनकी शिकायतें आ रही हैं। उनको दूर करने के लिये या नियंत्रित करने के लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रही है? दूसरा सवाल, इसी में मान्यवर, यह है कि मूल्य तो फसल पर मिलता है और मांग-पूर्ति के आधार पर बाजार मूल्य निर्धारित होता है, इसलिए उसके लिए गोदाम या कोल्ड स्टोरेज या फूड प्रिजर्वेशन की भविष्य में सरकार की क्या नीति है और स्टेट फार्म कार्पोरेशन के क्या क्रिया-कलाप रहते हैं, वह किसानों को किस प्रकार से सहयोग देता है, किस प्रकार फायदा पहुंचाता है ?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) : अब क्यों उनको भी निराश करें । आप भी पूछ लीजिए ।

कुमारी सईदा खातून (मध्य प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, मैं मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहती हूं कि उर्वरकों के मूल्यों में 30 प्रतिशत वृद्धि को ध्यान में रखा गया है, मैं पूछना चाहती हूं कि इस ध्यान को कार्यरूप में कब तक परिणत किया जाएगा ? आपने जो धान का न्यूनतम मूल्य 230 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया है जो कि 1990–91 के 205 रु. प्रति क्विंटल के मूल्य से 25 रुपए अधिक है, तो अगर आप इस मूल्य को ज्यों-का त्यों ही रखते और उर्वरकों के मूल्य को भी पहले की ही तरह रखते तो किसान को मेरे ख्याल से ज्यादा राहत मिलती क्योंकि किसान अपनी कास्त के मूल्य के बढ़ने से उतना खुश नहीं होता जितना उदास वह उसकी दी जानेवाली सहूलियतों पर होता । खरीफ फसलों के न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य को, हर तरीके की खरीफ फसल . . (व्यवधान) . . तो इसका असर महंगाई पर ज्यादा पड़ रहा है ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) : बस, हो गया । ठीक है ठीक है । अब आप बैठ जाइए । श्री बलराम जाखड़ ।

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपके आदेश का पूरा पालन तो मैंने किया है ? . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

श्री बलराम जाखड़ : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले तो मैं यह साफ कर दूं कि किन बुनियादों के आधार पर यह मूल्य एनाउंस होते हैं और क्या किया जाता है ।

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO: Please speak in English.

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : माननीय सदस्य, इधर फोन कान में लगा लें ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) : हिंदी, अंग्रेजी का कोई प्रश्न नहीं । मंत्री जी जिस भाषा में चाहें उत्तर दें । संतोषजनक उत्तर दें ।

श्री बलराम जाखड़ : दोनों में बोल सकता हूं । सब को संतोष हो गया है, जो किसान नहीं हैं, उसको संतोष नहीं हो सकता है, बाकी तो सब को संतोष हो गया । . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह): आप तो सदन चला चुके हैं, इसलिए आप जानते हैं कि सदन की मांग सर्वोपरि होती है। अब आप अपनी बात कह दें। . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I can Speak in English; there is no problem. The question is that we have to first satisfy ourselves as to the criteria and the *modus-ope-randi* we use for fixing up the support price. There are two things. Firstly, it is the components of the cost of produc-tios of crops which includes the value of hired labour, value of own bullock labour, value of hired bullock labour, hired machinery charges, value of own machine labour, value of seeds, both farm produced and purchased, value of insecticides and and purchased, value of farm yard manure, owned and purchased, value of chemicals and fertilizers, depreciation of implements in farming and building, irrigation charges, land revenue cesses and other taxes. interest on working capital, miscellaneous expenses, payment to artisans etc. rent paid for lease of land, interest on value of own capital assests excluding land, imputed rental value of own land, net land revenue paid thereon and the impm'e-l value of family labour and management. Whatever had been enumerated, we take into account everything. 7.00 P.M. other factors are most of production, changes in input prices, input-output price parity, change in market prices, demand and supply, intercrop parity effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, international market price situation, parity between the prices paid and the prices received. Furthermore, there is the statutory minimum price level and the wages fixed by each State Government. There are labour wages which are paid individually on a higher scale also. We have said that whichever is higher should be calculated, and in any case not less than the minimum price fixed by the State Governments. The CACP report was submitted on the 15th of March and the second supplementary

report was submitted on the 30th July, 1991, that is, after the subsidy cut. After taking into account all these things, we have to arrive at a very cogemial and acceptable formula by which we can safe-guard the interest of the farmers. An hon. Member had asked as to how the farmer will get back the money he invested. Now, the prices have increased and nearly two-thirds of the fertiliser has been used. There is no such method that you pay before and get it afterwards. We have the co-operative system and the loaning system by which the farmers get loan. We have to sele that they receive what they have invested. They must get a fair return. It is a question of subsistence. It is a question of the well-being of the farmers. My friends werei saying that I had given So much to the farmers and they asked ore as to ' what will happen to the othejr sections of the society. We must realise that the well-being of the nation dejpends on food production. You cannot kick or destroy the basic structure of the farming community. If we do not take care of them, they will not be able to produce. If they do not produce, what will happen? At the time of Independence, for 340 million people, we! were importing lakhs and lakhs tonnes of foodgrains under the PL-480 scheme. Thanks to the farming community, now, we have more than 850 million pepple and our granaries are full. Satya Bahinji asked me about the people who have been affetced by floods. We have sent 40,000 tons of foodgrains to Orissa and another 5,000 to 10,000 tons would bel sent. So there is nothing to worry at all. We do not export after tightening the belt. We only export when we have[1] the capacity and capability to do so. We keep the interejst of the people in mind. There is no problem on that score. Satya Bahinji Shad asked me whether we can purchasei the foodgrains from the farmers. I have! alerted each State Governimefnt and requested the Food Ministry—under which the FCI operates—to make suitable arrangements. We have *io* see from this angle beacusel sometimes if there are lapses, the farmers, especially the weaker ones, are not able to meet even the cost of production and they suffer very much. It is a question of cumulatively and collectively taking the responsibility wherever such things happen. We must safeguard the interest of the farmers and make these agencies purchase that. I know that there are so many black sheep. There are so many people here and they

are amongest us. They are one of us. But they do not care. Therejfore, we have to make them care. We have to keep a watch on them. We have provided so many facilities. Still, there are so many to be provided. We! cannot import people. Even the people we imported have been fleecing our skin all the time, all these years. We got rid of them. But some of them are here still. We have to keep a watch on them and make them realise that they havej to serve the country as per our norms so that they do not harass the farmers.

What about middlemen? A question was asked about middlemein. I know that middlmen do it. That is why we introduced the market intervention scheme. Mr. Jadhav said. I know that. In Gujarat, for example, we have the NDDB. We put up mills and they are producing this 'Dhara*. Due to this, the farmers have been saved somewhat. Still, we need more. It has to be a co-opeirative effort, in the co-operative sector, because the farmer has not got that much money. We have to collect it. The only way is to cooperate with each other, to set up cooperative agencies.

Also, in the fields of oil and cotton. We have put up so many cotton spinning mills. It should be our endeavour to make them work properly, according to the demands of the time and according to the demands of the people, to safeguard their interests. It has to be) a collective effort on the part of all of us. Now, it is a notional price we have fixed. The actual price in the field is much more. Sooielbody asked whether it will be binding, whether they will have to sell it at this price. If they get higher price, they are free to sell it at that pricei. As I said, it is a notional price. It is a support price to ensure that they are not exploited by millde-enen. If we do not intervene by way of giving this support price, things would be different. As you know, there were times when paddy and wheat were sold at half the price. That is why we fix the support price. I do not say that the fareners have got all the facilities. But we do give them facilities for storage and other things.

About jute prices. Jute price for the 1991-92 season was fixed earlier and the crop was already harvested before the increase in the price of fertiliser. It was fixed at Rs 375 as against Rs. 320. Jute price for the 1992-93 crop, to be sown in February-March, 1992, will be announced before[1] the crop is sown. Due care will also be taken to compensate for the increase in the* fertiliser price as cost price.

In regard to sugarcane price, it concerns the Food Ministry. As per my knowledge, I think it has been announced.

Somebody asked about fertiliser factories. They have been given some sort of fixed return on their investment. I have already announced in the House the other day. I did announce a Committee; of Parliament, consisting of Members of both the Houses, assisted by three or four experts, —whatever is the number— to go into the working of these factories, whether they are being managed well or they are incurring losses or they have been fleecing us. We will find out how they are working and on that basis, we will do it.

It has been said that the prices are low. But 1 would like to point that we have taken into account all the factors while calculating the price. In addition to this, we get information from 90,000 farms, These farms are monitored by thirteen univertities specially and three in general. All these things we get. We also keep in contact with the State Governments. We discuss it with them also. We calculate the price after taking into account all these things. I know there might be some price increase otherwise. But, naturally wou cannot stop the farmer. In that ca[s]e the whole thing will crack. Naturally, we have to do that and in that case there is no other way to do it.

My hon. friend from here said that there should not have been any increase. My God, what would have been the case if there had been no increase? What would have the farmers thought of us? It is the farmers who have achieved all this today. It is due to them that this is our

[Shri Balram Jakhar]

position throughout the world today. What would have been our position if the farmer had not come to our rescue? 1 think hats off to the farmers, thit is what it is.

My hon. friend there said that he was very much concerned about labour. Yes, I am also concerned about labour. We wiil give them. Without labour you cannot do. Whosoever is concerned in the farming community he is a farmer and his interest should be watched. If there is no money with the former, he won't be able to pay to the labour also. So, the labour must enjoy the share and fruit and 1 think we must ensure that his interests are the uppermost in our mind and we make them strong, right on their feet. I hope the hon. Members will support me that we have done something which the faiming community will love and try to do whatever can be done to make this country proud of its farmers. I think we owe to our farmers something much more than our thanks. *(Interruptions).*

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : सारा सदन मंत्री जी को बधाई देता है . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

श्री बलराम जाखड़ : लोन वेवर का ऐसा मसला है कि सेप्रेट सब्जेक्ट है और इस पर कल मैंने पूरा उनको बताया. . . (व्यवधान)

यह बहुत सीधी सी बात है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह) : सदन की कार्यवाही कल 11 बजे तक के लिये स्थगित की जाती है ।

The House then adjourned at twelve minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clocjj on Thursday, the 5th September, 1991.

MGIPMRND—399 RS—13-5-92